

**DISTRICT IV ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
May 1, 2002**

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The District IV Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at Stanley Neighborhood City Hall located at 1749 S. Martinson. In attendance were (9) District Advisory Board Members, (9) City staff members and (1) citizen.

**Members Present**

Council Member Bill Gale  
June Bailey  
Dorman Blake  
Tom Kessler  
Ed Koon  
Jerry McGinty  
Gary Stein  
Bea Vickers  
Wayne Wells

**Members Absent**

Jim Benton  
Iola Crandall

**Guest(s)**

Irene Armstrong, 1109 Greenfield

**City Staff**

Jack Brown, Environmental Health  
Director  
Kay Johnson, Environmental  
Compliance Officer  
John D'Angelo, Director of City Arts  
Officer Tricia Beck, Patrol West  
Officer Richard Mellard, Patrol West  
Officer Drew Seiler, Patrol West  
Officer Anthony Bamberger, Patrol  
South

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**Call to Order**

**Council Member Bill Gale** called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and welcomed guests and presenters.

**Approval of Minutes**

- ☐ Clarify vote on second to accept the last page to read 3-2 instead of "5 approved".
- ☐ Note there was no answer to **Paul Ward's** question of how to get a project onto the CIP.
- ☐ It is **Spencer**, not **Spicer** on the last page.
- ☐ **Council Member Gale** announced **June Bailey** is resigning on the last page.

The minutes of April 3, 2002, were approved with the following corrections:  
(**McGinty/Blake 9-0**)

**Approval of Agenda**

**Jerry McGinty** moved to add the Police survey to the agenda. Motion passed with the amendment to the agenda (**McGinty/Blake 9-0**)

## **PUBLIC AGENDA**

*The Public Agenda contains requests from members of the public who desire to present matters to the Board. All items will be allowed five (5) minutes of presentation time to clarify the issue, provide background information, and identify the requested action. Printed materials are encouraged.*

**No items were submitted at this time.**

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

**No items were submitted at this time.**

## **PLANNING**

**No items were submitted at this time.**

## **BOARD AGENDA**

### **1. Seneca Streetscape Update**

**John D'Angelo**, Director of City Arts, presented the proposed improvements along Seneca Street from Kellogg to the Museum Corridor. Six Monoliths will be placed along the corridor ascending in height from 28 feet to 45 feet tall. Mid Kansas Engineering did the design work with Kent Williams as the artist for the monolithic structures. The monoliths are designed to symbolize the divide in the river. The monoliths will be made of a material that will look like limestone and has a winding river design on it. An animated video was shown to demonstrate what the drive will look like.

The following are questions and comments from DAB members. Answers are in italics:

**Gary Stein** – Will the monoliths be the same color as limestone? *Yes, they will tie into the limestone in the museum district. Will more artwork be placed along Seneca? Probably not. The Douglas artwork was donated for a specific purpose. The art being placed will help bring the focus of attention to the center of the street.* Were there any other designs to choose from? *All design projects use consultants who develop several projects. This was the project they chose and presented to the Design Council. Some other options were to use limestone at the base of light pole and utilize banners.*

**June Bailey** – What was the cost? *No exact number was given but it was 1% or less of the total project cost.*

**Tom Kessler** – Does the 1% account for art only? *That also includes seasonal lighting for the trees.*

**Jerry McGinty** – Will the project be ready by this fall? *Public Works would know for sure but the intent is to get it done as soon as possible. Are the columns finished? They are being cast right now.*

**Dorman Blake** – What kind of signage will be used? *Way finding signs similar to the ones being used now for downtown and the Boathouse will be used. The City is seeing results from the current signage at the Boathouse as attendance is up and many of the people who visited said the signage was helpful in locating it.*

**Council Member Gale** – How does the height of the monoliths compare with streetlights and the neon towers? *They are slightly taller than streetlights. The Neon Tubes are 35 feet tall so these are taller. Will there be banners? There will be brackets on the light poles. The hope is they will be utilized by downtown, River Fest, the United Way, and museums will use them to promote events. These are funded by private sources as the banners are very expensive.*

**Council Member Bill Gale** thanked **D'Angelo** for all of his hard work and for presenting this information to the DAB.

\*\*\*\*\* **Action taken:** Receive and File

2. **River Committee Update**

**Jack Brown**, Environmental Health Director, updated the board on the status of river water and what projects the River Committee is doing. The department is setting up a display at the Boathouse to educate the public the quality of water in the river. Phase One of the current river cleanup project is finding hot spots and looking for point sources of contamination. Phase One is complete. Pennants notifying the public of the quality of river water are being posted at 2:00 daily on the Douglas and Lewis Street Bridges. Level One (blue) pennants signify excellent water quality; level two (green) denotes not to drink the water but it is still safe. Level three (orange) is when the water is not safe.

There is a survey online asking people if the pennants helped them during River Festival. **Council Member Bob Martz** and **Council Member Sharon Fearey** chair the Advisory Committee for Environmental Health. Their focus is on educating the public. The Task Force is assigned by the Manager and is more technical in nature. The City of Wichita is doing extensive testing and have found sanitary problems come from upstream (these are biological in nature). They are working with KDHE to address the findings from upstream treatment plants.

The Committee is working with a new analytical tool and sampling at 10 sites. There is a collaboration from WSU, KSU, and KU applying this new technique to determine whether contamination is human, livestock, wildlife, or domestic animals. They should have results within a couple of weeks.

Environmental Health took place in Earth Day events at the Sedgwick County Zoo, Old Town, and held a river cleanup where over 100 volunteers picked up a ton of trash. Six radio stations promoted the event and they are working on promoting a May 19, 2002 post River Festival cleanup. Information can be found at [www.wichita.gov](http://www.wichita.gov).

The following are questions and comments from DAB members. Answers are in italics:

**Tom Kessler** – How many samples are taken? *About 50 samples a month but they are taken daily during River Fest at the Lewis Street Bridge and upstream if it rains.*

**Dorman Blake** – Where are the ten points water is taken from? **Jack Brown** *named the points.*

**Jerry McGinty** – Is testing done at 2:00? *Testing takes place at 8:00 a.m. but results are not available until 2:00 p.m., which is when the pennants are placed on the bridges. There is now a computer that can create a model that predicts potential rain. The City of Wichita is working with the City of Chicago, IL on real-time measurement of water quality. Are the pennants up 24 hours? Yes.*

**Council Member Gale** – Has river quality remained steady? *The quality is not where they want it to be but it has remained relatively constant for the last ten years.*

**Council Member Gale** thanked **Jack Brown** and **Kay Johnson** for the information and for all the work they do for the City of Wichita.

\*\*\*\*\* **Action taken:** Receive and File.

### 3. **Neighborhood Reports and Announcements**

- **June Bailey** received an email saying Wichita is once again a finalist for the All-America City award. Three projects that were highlighted were: Project Access, Eclipse Teen Center (in District IV), and the Bond Oversight. Noted it is **Aaron Hamilton's** one-year anniversary. She also noted the school bond is \$2,000,000 ahead as is construction due to the mild winter weather. Plan on seeing construction sooner than expected in some areas.
- **Bea Vickers** reported the success of the Southwest Neighborhood Association parade. There were 60 registered entries that showed up (26 did not due to inclement weather). The Vietnam Vets volunteered to organize the flag ceremony next year. April 19, 2003 will be the date for next year's parade. Southwest Neighborhood Association's next meeting is May 28, 2002, at St. Anne's.
- **Wayne Wells** explained the projected completion date for the Seneca Streetscape is July 15, 2002, but the last he heard they were ahead of schedule due to the mild winter weather. No definite completion date was available at the meeting. He introduced Delano's new Beat Coordinator, **Officer Perkins**. The board welcomed him to the meeting.
- **Officer Anthony Bamberger** thanked everyone for attending the parade and for filling out a traffic survey for him.
- **Officer Richard Mellard** informed the board of supervisory changes at Patrol West. **Lt. Jeff Weible** has already started and **Sgt. Clark Bolan** will begin next week. He also thanked everyone for their assistance and

the Neighborhood Grant Money that was given to a project he and Sunflower Neighborhood Association coordinated with Lawrence Elementary and the Rotary Club. The Wichita Eagle ran two stories about the cleanup project. **Mellard** thanked **Council Member Bill Gale** and **Aaron Hamilton** for their assistance with the successful cleanup.

- **Officer Drew Seiler** announced the flea market drag racing display was a huge success. The event got a good response from the kids it was targeting and the media. Since then, he has not received any complaints from the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift officers. The Little League team sponsored by the Police Department won their first game. The Wichita Wranglers gave the whole team tickets, are letting them play catch with Wrangler players, and wear jerseys. Their next game is at the Southwest Boys Club at 6:30 p.m. on May 12, 2002.
- **Irene Armstrong**, Southwest Neighborhood Association President, said the new flag pole the DAB money helped purchase looks outstanding.

**Council Member Gale** asked if a second meeting in May was necessary. The consensus was there was not a second meeting needed.

With no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Aaron Hamilton  
District IV Neighborhood Assistant